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FROM: NEW YORK

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1588, NOVEMBER 1, 7 P.M.

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PRIORITY

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Authority

By

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CUBA

AT MTG STEVENSON, MCCLOY AND YOST WITH SYG THIS AFTERNOON HE REPORTED THAT UNARMED US RECONNAISSANCE PLANES OVERFLEW CUBA AT LOW LEVEL TODAY AND WERE NOT FIRED UPON. SYG COMMENTED THAT EXACTLY WHAT CASTRO HAD SAID TO HIM ON THIS POINT HAD BEEN THAT OVERFLIGHTS OF CUBAN TERRITORY WOULD BE INVASION OF ITS SOVEREIGNTY, THAT HE WOULD NOT LIKE TO SHOOT THEM DOWN BUT THAT "HIS BOYS ARE TRIGGER HAPPY" AND MIGHT. HE DID NOT SPECIFICALLY SAY THAT HE HAD GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS TO SHOOT.

MCCLOY GAVE SYG OUR ESTIMATES AS TO APPROXIMATE LENGTH OF TIME IT WILL TAKE TO REMOVE WEAPONS FROM CUBA AND NUMBER OF VESSELS LIKELY TO BE INVOLVED.

STEVENSON URGED HE PROCEED PROMPTLY TO GET US RED CROSS INSPECTION SYSTEM. THIS IS SOVIET-US PROBLEM WHICH DOES NOT REQUIRE CUBAN ASSENT. HE MENTIONED SUGGESTION THAT SOV VESSELS MIGHT BE RUN THROUGH SINGLE "SLOT" WHERE THEY MIGHT BE CHECKED BY RELATIVELY SMALL NUMBER OF RED CROSS INSPECTORS LOCATED ON US, NEUTRAL OR RED CROSS SHIP. HE SAID WE EXPECT FULL INSTRUCTIONS ON THIS POINT TONIGHT. SYG MENTIONED THAT SOVS HAVE NOMINATED MOROZOV TO NEGOTIATE THIS PROBLEM AND HE WAS DESIGNATED NARASIMHAN AND RIKHYE. STEVENSON REPLIED THAT YOST WOULD DEAL WITH THEM.

SYG DECLARED RED CROSS IS READY TO PROCEED AS SOON AS IT RECEIVES FORMAL REQUEST WHICH HE HOPES TO DESPATCH AT ONCE. NARASIMHAN DISPLAYED RELUCTANCE TO DESPATCH FORMAL REQUEST

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WHICH WOULD SET OPERATION IN MOTION UNTIL FINANCIAL PROBLEM HAD BEEN SETTLED. BOTH HE AND SYG EMPHASIZED THAT IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO DRAW ON UN BUDGET FOR THIS PURPOSE WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION FROM SC. RED CROSS OF COURSE COULD ASSUME NO FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND MUST BE REIMBURSED FOR ALL EXPENSES. THEY BELIEVED THEY SHOULD BE ABLE TO ASSURE RED CROSS THAT THIS WILL BE DONE. (LATER AFTER CONSULTATION WITH BALL, YOST PHONED NARASIMHAN AND TOLD HIM HE MIGHT ASSURE RED CROSS THEY WOULD BE REIMBURSED. NARASIMHAN REPLIED HE IS DOING SO AND IS REQUESTING THEY SEND REP TO NY TOMORROW.) NARASIMHAN ESTIMATED COST OF OPERATION WOULD NOT BE MORE THAN \$100,000 FOR PERIOD 30-45 DAYS. HE THOUGHT IT WOULD TAKE ABOUT ONE WEEK TO DEPLOY RED CROSS INSPECTORS TO CARIBBEAN, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THAT THEY WOULD HAVE TO BE BROUGHT FIRST TO NEW YORK FOR BRIEFING.

SYG SAID HE HAD BEEN DISCUSSING WITH SC MEMBERS THEIR IDEAS CONCERNING SC MTG. HIS OWN SUGGESTION IS THAT THERE BE MEETING LATTER PART OF NEXT WEEK, IN ANY CASE NOT BEFORE WEDNESDAY. PRIMARY PURPOSE WOULD BE TO ENABLE HIM TO REPORT FULLY TO COUNCIL AND BEFORE DOING SO HE WOULD HOPE TO BE INFORMED OF RESULTS OF MIKOYAN VISIT TO CUBA. EVEN IF SC DOES NOT MEET HE WOULD FEEL OBLIGED TO REPORT TO SC IN WRITING BY THAT TIME. MAIN PROBLEM ARISING IN SC MTG WOULD BE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN US AND CUBA AS TO SUBSTANCE OF MTG. US WISHES COUNCIL TO DEAL ONLY WITH IMMEDIATE PROBLEM WHEREAS CASTRO WISHES COUNCIL TO DEAL WITH WHOLE RANGER OF PROBLEMS INVOLVING CUBA. SYG SAID HE DOES NOT KNOW SOV VIEW ON THIS ISSUE. MIKOYAN MAY NOT BE ABLE TO ANSWER THIS QUESTION NOW THOUGH PERHAPS HE CAN AFTER HIS RETURN FROM CUBA. THANT DOES NOT KNOW WHETHER HE WILL PASS THROUGH NEW YORK ON HIS RETURN ROUTE. AS TO SC MTG NEXT WEEK, HE HOPES IMMEDIATE PROBLEM WILL IN FACT BE MORE OR LESS SETTLED BY THAT TIME IN THAT WITHDRAWAL OF WEAPONS FROM SITES WILL HAVE BEEN CONFIRMED, BY US MEANS IF NOT BY INSPECTION ON THE SPOT, AND RED CROSS OPERATION WILL HAVE BEEN SET UP. HOWEVER CHIRAN REP WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BRING BEFORE SC BROADER ISSUE, INCLUDING ALL 5 POINTS IN CASTRO'S DECLARATION.

STEVENSON POINTED OUT THAT SC HAS ONLY BEEN SEIZED OF THE IMMEDIATE ISSUE AND HE DOES NOT SEE HOW IT CAN GO INTO THESE OTHER MATTERS. WHEN LOUFEI REMARKED FIRST 4 OF CASTRO'S POINTS ARE RELATIVELY EASY AND ONLY GUANTANAMO CREATES PROBLEMS WE EMPHASIZED THAT THIS IS NOT THE CASE, THAT FIRST POINT RELATES NOT TO QUARANTINE BUT TO ECONOMIC PRESSURES WHICH

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HAVE BEEN APPLIED OVER LONG PERIOD, THAT OTHER POINTS ALSO INVOLVE EXTRANEIOUS ISSUES AND THAT MANY OF THEM ARE MATTERS WITH WHICH OAS IS DEEPLY CONCERNED. MCCLOY NOTED THAT KUZNETSOV HAD MADE CLEAR THAT SOVS WOULD NOT ASSOCIATE THESE BROADER QUESTIONS WITH REMOVAL OFFENSIVE WEAPONS.

STEVENSON SUGGESTED THAT AT SC MTG; SYG, USSR AND US WOULD EACH REPORT WHAT IT HAS DONE TO CARRY OUT COMMITMENTS IN CORRESPONDENCE AMONG PRESIDENT, KHRUSHCHEV AND THANT. NARASIMHAN AGREED SERIES OF PARALLEL DECLARATIONS, WITH SUMMING UP BY SC PRESIDENT, WOULD PROBABLY BE BEST MEANS OF BUTTONING UP QUESTION, SINCE IT WOULD BE VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO GET AGREED RES. HE SUGGESTED THAT IF CUBANS RAISED BROADER QUESTIONS BEFORE COUNCIL WE COULD IN REPLY MERELY STATE OUR POSITION THAT THEY ARE NOT PERTINENT TO ISSUE WITH WHICH COUNCIL IS SEIZED. SYG INDICATED HE IS IN NO PARTICULAR HURRY FOR MTG NOR IS HE UNDER PRESSURE FROM OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS. HE THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL IF THERE WERE PRIOR OAS MTG.

LOUFI NOTED BRAZILIANS IN HAVANA HAD TOLD SYG THEY WOULD BE GETTING IN TOUCH WITH US ON RESULTS OF THEIR VISIT. HE SAID BOTH GEN DE SYLVA AND BRAZILIAN AMB ARE VERY ABLE.

SYG EXPRESSED STRONG DOUBT THAT MIKOYAN WILL BE ABLE TO PERSUADE CASTRO TO PERMIT ANY SORT OF INSPECTION IN CUBA. HE NOTED MIKOYAN IS ACCOMPANIED BY 12 AIDES AND PRESUMED THEY WOULD BE NEGOTIATING INCREASED ECONOMIC AID.

HE ALSO REMARKED THAT, SINCE UN WILL PRESUMABLY BE SERIOUSLY CONCERNED WITH CUBAN QUESTION AT LEAST FOR COUPLE OF MONTHS, HE IS DESIGNATING AN OFFICER UNDER LOUFI TO OCCUPY HIMSELF EXCLUSIVELY WITH THIS PROBLEM.

STEVENSON

DMJ

NOTE: PASSED WHITE HOUSE, PRINCIPLE OFFICERS EXCOM, 11-1-62;
CWO-JSW.

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